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Our fathers wanted to live at peace with our neighbors to the north, and so they prepared for peace. They abolished forts and fortifications along the northern boundary, and declared that the great lakes should be a highway for commerce, and not stations for ships of war. We prepared for peace, and peace we have had for eighty-four years. But there are men to-day who, bitten by the military mad dog, are alarmed at the imminent danger of an invasion from the north, and would have the whole Canadian border bristling with guns.

"What then is the duty of a Christian in our day? Should he not be a passionate advocate of peace? Should he not set himself against all bluster and brag, and resist with all his might the tendency to increase military expenditures? Every increase in our navy strengthens the war party in every parliament of Europe, and every increase of the military burden there drives to this country a new horde of exiles whose very life has been almost ground out of them by the military system, and crushes the millions who cannot get away down into a more pitiful and hopeless degradation.

"Mr. Bloch, the distinguished Polish Political Economist, closes his monumental work on the 'Future of War' with the assertion that the consequence of the present expenditure on preparation for war is slow destruction, a destruction that extends not simply to industry and finance, but to the framework of society and the fibre of men's souls. I wish you could all read his six great volumes, and study his awful, frightening pages of statistics. You would then understand why Tolstoy and others cry out in the agony of a great despair. It would make clear why there are socialists and anarchists and nihilists. It would explain why so many of our best informed and farthest sighted citizens fear militarism more than any other demon ever let loose from the pit. We have had one great Peace Conference; we must soon have another. At the Conference of The Hague an international tribunal was established; at the next conference plans must be adopted for scaling down the magnitude of the armaments which are souring and poisoning and damning the life of Christendom. Militarism is the running sore, the inexcusable blunder, the unspeakable crime, the unpardonable sin of the Christian world. I believe that the world would be infinitely happier and safer if all the great fighting fleets of battle-ships were sunk to the bottom of the sea, and there should be no navy except an international force of cruisers just sufficient to protect commerce from pirates and the possible depredations of half civilized tribes. In the great work of redemption America must lead the way. From the beginning we have been preëminently a nation of peace. That is why God has blessed us above all the nations of the earth."

Hail and Farewell!

BY JOHN ADAMS.

(*U. S. Army Bill, 1901.*)

Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing,
We have come to say good-bye.
In the days of our beginning
Thou to us wert the Most High.
We are older now, and wiser
Than were nations of the past;

We are planning for a record
Which old histories will outlast.
In thy Empyrean, Lord,
Love for empire still will hold;
But for rulership on earth
We have squarely chosen gold.
Holy Moses! Should the question
Which outranks, dear Lord, arise,
Constituencies must settle that,
Deciding by the count of size.

Hail Columbia! We are going
To the fields of our own sowing.
Farewell, cherished old opinion,
Farewell, heavenly dominion!
We may meet, and we may never,
In the world that's called forever.
But they're bivouacked for glory
Who beforehand write their story.
Time is speeding. Give us blessing;
For old friendship's sake, a blessing.
Once for all, our once Most High,
We are bidding Thee good-bye.

The Universal Demonstration of Women for Peace.

(The following circular letter, addressed to local councils of women throughout the United States, not having reached us in time for publication in our May number, we are glad to give it place in our present issue, as setting forth the faithfulness with which the women of peace propose to follow up the important work which they began the year of the Hague Conference.)

On May 15, 1899, a universal demonstration in behalf of peace was undertaken by an international committee of women. Through the indefatigable labors of this committee, numerous meetings were held in eighteen different countries. The chairman of the entire committee, Frau Margerete Lenore Selenka, of Munich, reported the results of this demonstration to the Peace Conference at its opening session at The Hague, which took place on May 18, of that year.

Notwithstanding the discouraging conditions of the intervening years, and the many pessimistic jeers at the Czar's Conference at The Hague, it is certainly matter for grateful consideration that as a result of that Conference the Permanent Court of International Arbitration will convene at The Hague on the second anniversary of the Conference. To celebrate this event, to show that their zeal for peace, instead of being cooled by wars and rumors of wars, is only by these events excited to greater ardor, the same international committee has undertaken another peace demonstration by women to be held on May 18, 1901. This demonstration will be simultaneous with the opening of the Court of International Arbitration.

By the authority of the international committee, including distinguished women of Germany, England, Austria, Canada, Belgium, Denmark, Spain, France, Holland, Roumania, Hungary, Italy, Norway, Russia, Servia, Sweden, Switzerland and Japan, as the representative on this committee in the United States, the undersigned hereby urges women throughout the United States to arrange for meetings, large and small, in behalf of international peace and arbitration.

Wherever local councils exist, it is recommended that